



Icebreaker

How do you finish this sentence? It's hard to be around my friends when they...

Have you ever had a friend who really needed you, but kept pushing you away?

Read Ruth 1

Moab was one of the worst enemies Israel ever had. While Israel prepared to enter the promised land, the Moabite king sent women to seduce the men of Israel to sin and thereby incur the wrath of God. That event led to one of the bloodiest episodes in the Old Testament—one that God commanded his people to never forget. In light of that, what do you think about Elimelech and his family moving to Moab and his sons taking Moabite wives?

What do you think of Naomi's attitude in this chapter?

What do you think of Ruth?

Opinion: Why do you think Ruth stayed with Naomi?

Opinion: Ruth is intent on staying with Naomi, but she shows no signs of joining in Naomi's bitterness. It's as if she is saying, "I won't leave you, but I won't join your misery." What do you think of that? How hard is it to stay with a bitter person and not let their bitterness affect you?

Read Ruth 4:13-17

What do you think of how the story ends?

In his genealogy of Jesus, Matthew specifically mentions Ruth by name to remind us that this Moabite woman is part of the ancestry of Jesus. What do you think of that?

SIDE NOTE: In this book, Ruth's name shows up 20 times, and 7 of those times, the author specifically mentions that she is from Moab, as in, "Ruth, the Moabitess..."

Take it Home

How do you determine when to stick with a bitter person who needs a better kind of friend and when to let them go their own way?



Icebreaker

How do you finish this sentence? It's hard to be around my friends when they...

Have you ever had a friend who really needed you, but kept pushing you away?

Read Ruth 1

Moab was one of the worst enemies Israel ever had. While Israel prepared to enter the promised land, the Moabite king sent women to seduce the men of Israel to sin and thereby incur the wrath of God. That event led to one of the bloodiest episodes in the Old Testament—one that God commanded his people to never forget. In light of that, what do you think about Elimelech and his family moving to Moab and his sons taking Moabite wives?

What do you think of Naomi's attitude in this chapter?

What do you think of Ruth?

Opinion: Why do you think Ruth stayed with Naomi?

Opinion: Ruth is intent on staying with Naomi, but she shows no signs of joining in Naomi's bitterness. It's as if she is saying, "I won't leave you, but I won't join your misery." What do you think of that? How hard is it to stay with a bitter person and not let their bitterness affect you?

Read Ruth 4:13-17

What do you think of how the story ends?

In his genealogy of Jesus, Matthew specifically mentions Ruth by name to remind us that this Moabite woman is part of the ancestry of Jesus. What do you think of that?

SIDE NOTE: In this book, Ruth's name shows up 20 times, and 7 of those times, the author specifically mentions that she is from Moab, as in, "Ruth, the Moabitess..."

Take it Home

How do you determine when to stick with a bitter person who needs a better kind of friend and when to let them go their own way?

